

Message Text

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21/16

ACTION EA-13

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R 130412Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6818

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLG PEKING

RUEHDTXUSMISSION USUN NEW YORK 599

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 10988

LIMDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (INFO ADDEE ADDED)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, RP, CH, TW, US

SUBJ: MEETING WITH PRESIDENT MARCOS 9/12/74: RELATIONS WITH
CHINA

1. AHJAHF CALLED ON PRESIDENT MARCOS SEPTEMBER 12 ON OTHER
MATTERS, I FOUND HIM VERY PREOCCUPIED WITH THE QUESTION OF
CHINA. HE SPENT ONE HALF HOUR DISCUSSING CHINA POLICY WITH
ME BEFORE WE TURNED TO THE BUSINESS AT HAND.

2. BURDEN OF HIS REMARKS WAS REITERATION OF PHILIPPINE
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DETERMINATION TO "NORMALIZE" RELATIONS WITH PEKING. HE SAID

HUANG HUA, IN NEW YORK, HAD RECENTLY BEEN PRESSING RATHER HEAVILY FOR EARLY DECISION THIS SUBJECT. HE ASKED WHETHER WE HAD EXPERIENCED SIMILAR PRESSURE. I SAID I WAS UNAWARE OF ANY, BUT WOULD INQUIRE.

3. MARCOS THEN DISCUSSED HIS THREE PRIMARY CONCERNS: (A) REACTION IN TAIPEI, (B) CONTINUING PRC SUPPORT FOR SUBVERSION, (C) CITIZENSHIP QUESTION FOR CHINESE NATIONALS. HE DILATED AT SOME LENGTH ON FAMILIAR LINES, WITH ONLY NEW FEATURE BEING HIS STATEMENT THAT NEW PHILIPPINE AMBASSADOR TO TAIPEI IS UNDER INSTRUCTIONS TO WORK OUT "PRACTICAL STEPS" TO EAST TRANSITION OF RECOGNITION FROM GRC TO PRC, AND PARTICULARLY TO DEVELOP SOME SOLUTION TO CITIZENSHIP PROBLEM WHICH WILL PERMIT CHINESE NATIONALS IN PHILIPPINES RETAIN ALLEGIANCE TO TAIPEI, IF THEY SO DESIRE.

4. HE SAID HE HAS NOT RPT NOT AUTHORIZED PHIL REPS IN NEW YORK TO ENTER INTO ANY SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS WITH HUANG HUA, BUT THAT LATTER HAD SUGGESTED "CANADIAN FORMULA" AS BEST METHOD OF NORMALIZATION. HE DISCUSSED PEKING PERSONALITIES AT SOME LENGTH AND SEEMED TO REGRET PROBABLY PASSING OF CHOU FROM ACTIVE SETTING. HE DISCOUNTED TRIP BY MRS. MARCOS AS SUBSTANTIVE OVERTURE, BUT SAID HE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN ANY INITIATIVES PRC MIGHT MADE DURING HER STAY.

5. WE DISCUSSED CHINESE ATTITUDE TOWARDS U.S. BASES IN SOME DETAIL. I SAID THAT, IF CHINESE WERE PRESSED ON THIS SUBJECT, THEY WOULD HAVE TO PRODUCE ESSENTIALLY NEGATIVE REACTIONS FOR THE RECORD. ON THE OTHER HAND, IF THEY WERE NOT PRESSED, THERE WAS GOOD CHANCE THEY WOULD PASS MATTER BY IN SILENCE. SUCH SILENCE WOULD IN ITSELF BE SIGNIFICANTLY ELOQUENT. MARCOS INDICATED THAT HE WOULD LEAVE INITIATIVE THIS SUBJECT TO CHINESE.

6. IN SLIGHT DIGRESSION, MARCOS COMPARED CHINESE AND SOVIET STYLES. HE SAID SOVIETS WERE PUSHING RATHER HEAVY-HANDEDLY FOR TRADE MISSION IN MANILA, WHILE CHINESE PRESSURE WAS FAR MORE DISCREET. MARCOS CONTINUES TO WISH TO KEEP PEKING AND MOSCOW MOVES MORE OR LESS PARALLEL, AND SEEMS TO CONFIDENTIAL

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FEEL HE CAN CONTROL THE SOVIET PACE EFFECTIVELY.

7. COMMENT: FROM THIS DISCUSSION, AND THE PARTICULAR CONCERN MARCOS HAS WITH PEKING PERSONALITIES, I GATHER IMPRESSION HE IS MOVING VERY CONCRETELY TOWARDS NEGOTIATIONS. I ALSO GET AN IMPRESSION (PERHAPS WITHOUT SOLID JUSTIFICATION) THAT HE MAY INTEND TO HANDLE NEGOTIATIONS PERSONALLY. WHETHER THIS WOULD ENTAIL TRIP TO PEKING PRIOR TO HAVING

DETAILS ALL BUTTONED DOWN, I CANNOT SAY, BUT I WOULD NOT RPT
NOT RULE OUT SUCH AN ENTERPRISE.

8. ACTION REQUESTED: SINCE MARCOS CLEARLY WISHES TO KEEP
US IN PICTURE ON HIS CHINA MOVES, AND IN ORDER AVOID ANY
"SHOCKS" IN OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS WHICH COULD EFFECT
OUR BASES HERE, I WOULD APPRECIATE ANSWER TO HIS QUESTION
CONCERNING ANY PRC PRESSURES WE HAVE RECENTLY EXPERIENCED
TOWARDS "NORMALIZATION" BEYOND SCOPE OF SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE.
SULLIVAN

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